

**To:** Washburn, Ben[washburn.ben@epa.gov]  
**From:** Quirarte-Ortiz, Cecilia  
**Sent:** Tue 7/15/2014 9:15:25 PM  
**Subject:** RE: OPA Daily Digest 7/15/14

Posted

**From:** Washburn, Ben  
**Sent:** Tuesday, July 15, 2014 3:38 PM  
**Subject:** OPA Daily Digest 7/15/14

## **OPA Daily Digest for 7/15/14**

### **Congressional Inquiries:**

**Sen. Pat Roberts** (Kan.); **Sen. Jerry Moran** (Kan.); **Rep. Tim Huelskamp** (Kan.); **Rep. Lynn Jenkins** (Kan.); **Rep. Kevin Yoder** (Kan.); **Rep. Mike Pompeo** (Kan.) – Letter – 7/9/14: Military vehicles transferred to fire departments by the Kansas Fire Service. Due: 7/23/14. Contact: LaTonya Sanders, 7555 (open)

### **State Government Inquiries:**

**Mayor Conrad Bower** (Mo) – telephone – 7/14/14: Questions on the West Lake Site. Contact: Sarah Hatch, 7199 (open)

**Rep. Linda Black** (Mo) – telephone – 7/14/14: Constituent questions on issues in her District. Contact: Sarah Hatch, 7199 (open)

### **Press Inquiries:**

**National Geographic** – Meg Roosevelt – 7/10/14: Questions about Hastings Superfund site in Hastings, Neb. Contact: Ben Washburn, 7364 (open)

**Wall Street Journal** – John Emshwiller – 7/9/14: Questions about isolation barrier project at West Lake Landfill in Bridgeton, Mo. Contact: Chris Whitley, 7394 (open)

**Farm Progress Companies** – P.J. Griekspoor – 7/15/14: Questions about Administrator McCarthy's comments during the farm tour were referred to HQ. Contact: Kris Lancaster, 7557 (closed)

**KQ2-TV (St. Joseph, Mo.)** – Alan van Zandt – 7/15/14: Follow up questions about HPI facility in St. Joseph, Mo. Contact: Ben Washburn, 7364, (open)

## **Environmental Stories:**

**Kansas City Star - Diesel fumes near Kansas City, Kan., rail yard pose health threat, report says** - 7/15/14 - For generations, the Argentine railyard has been the lifeblood of this economically challenged Kansas City, Kan., neighborhood, providing jobs and attracting industry. The trains rolling by make a constant, even reassuring sound. But DeCaigny knows neighbors who regularly smell the diesel exhaust from the locomotives and the trucks that pick up and drop off cargo. <http://www.kansascity.com/news/local/article727874.html>

**St. Louis Post-Dispatch - Utilities await Missouri's approach to EPA carbon proposal** - 7/14/14 - Ameren Missouri says it must decide quickly on how to comply with proposed Environmental Protection Agency rules limiting carbon pollution. But with a state plan likely three years away, it's unclear which steps it should take and whether it can get credit for all of them. [http://www.stltoday.com/business/local/utilities-await-missouri-s-approach-to-epa-carbon-proposal/article\\_e92e9057-d3a3-53a5-b338-2ebe789e34fe.html](http://www.stltoday.com/business/local/utilities-await-missouri-s-approach-to-epa-carbon-proposal/article_e92e9057-d3a3-53a5-b338-2ebe789e34fe.html)

**WNAX Radio, Yankton, S.D. - EPA Funding Cut a Warning** - 7/15/14 - - Last week, a House Sub Committee approved legislation cutting EPA's funding by nine percent. The Chairman noted there's a great deal of concern over the number of regulatory actions taken by EPA in the absence of any legislation and without clear Congressional direction. <http://wnax.com/news/180081-epa-funding-cut-a-warning>

**Bloomberg - EPA Mercury Rule Impact on Coal Bigger Than Carbon: Norris** - 7/14/14 - The EPA's proposed greenhouse gas emission limits for existing power plants "won't be as impactful" on coal-fired generators as the agency's mercury emissions limits, FERC commissioner John Norris says. <http://www.bloomberg.com/news/2014-07-14/epa-mercury-rule-impact-on-coal-bigger-than-carbon-norris.html>

**Associated Press - Officials monitor fertilizer spill in Allison** - 7/14/14 - Officials are monitoring cleanup of a fertilizer spill in northern Iowa that dumped hundreds of gallons of liquid. The state Department of Natural Resources said Monday that an employee of the Farmers Cooperative in Allison was pulling a tank of 32 percent liquid nitrogen fertilizer on Thursday when a seam on the tank failed. [http://qctimes.com/news/state-and-regional/iowa/officials-monitor-fertilizer-spill-in-allison/article\\_4c6c3826-5a0c-5a09-b741-599ec9d20cb1.html](http://qctimes.com/news/state-and-regional/iowa/officials-monitor-fertilizer-spill-in-allison/article_4c6c3826-5a0c-5a09-b741-599ec9d20cb1.html)

**Kansas City Kansan - Schmidt pledges opposition to expanded regulation of farm and ranch waterways** - 7/14/14 - Kansas will object to proposed new federal water regulations that could significantly extend the regulatory reach of the federal government onto Kansas farms and ranches, Attorney General Derek Schmidt said today. <http://www.kckansan.com/2014/07/schmidt-pledges-opposition-to-expanded.html>

**Environmental Leader - EPA Approves Propane And Gas Fueled Engine** - 7/14/14 - The EPA has certified Power Solutions International's 8.8-liter propane and natural gas fueled engine for on-highway applications. <http://www.environmentalleader.com/2014/07/15/epa-approves-propane-and-gas-fueled-engine/>

**Columbia Daily Tribune - Hello progressive government, goodbye cheap electricity** - 7/14/14 - This new rule will strongly encourage — if not virtually force — states to pass carbon tax or cap-and-trade laws. It does not matter, apparently, that this is being done without the assent of people who were actually elected to make laws (Congress). [http://www.columbiatribune.com/opinion/oped/hello-progressive-government-goodbye-cheap-electricity/article\\_6bdab9a0-87dc-5e01-b031-5b7dc1ad285c.html](http://www.columbiatribune.com/opinion/oped/hello-progressive-government-goodbye-cheap-electricity/article_6bdab9a0-87dc-5e01-b031-5b7dc1ad285c.html)

**Platts - US EPA's proposed GHG rule could provide economic benefit to states: study** - 7/14/14 - The US Environmental Protection Agency's recently released proposed rules that would limit CO2 emissions from large power plants can be met economically and could even provide a net economic benefit to states, according to a new report from the Analysis Group. <http://www.platts.com/latest-news/electric-power/newyork/us-epas-proposed-ghg-rule-could-provide-economic-21905629>

**Center for Effective Government - Congress's Latest Assault on the EPA** - 7/14/14 - While neither the Graves legislation nor the House subcommittee appropriations bill is likely to pass the Senate as drafted, they signal the need for vigilance on efforts to undermine EPA's ability to fulfill its congressionally created mission to protect public health and the environment. <http://www.foreffectivegov.org/node/13137>

**E&E Daily - President set to roll out help for climate-affected communities** - 7/15/14 - President Obama will personally roll out a series of new climate change adaptation actions tomorrow when he meets with members of his State, Local and Tribal Leaders Climate Task Force on Preparedness and Resilience. <http://www.eenews.net/eedaily/stories/1060002843/>

**Environmental Leader - EPA Approves Propane And Gas Fueled Engine** - 7/15/14 - The EPA has certified Power Solutions International's 8.8-liter propane and natural gas fueled engine for on-highway applications. <http://www.environmentalleader.com/2014/07/15/epa-approves-propane-and-gas-fueled-engine/>

**Feedstuffs - EPA to host waters of U.S. webinar** - 7/15/14 - The Environmental Protection Agency recognizes it has a lot of un-muddying of the waters that has been created in its recently proposed Waters of the U.S. definition. The agency plans to host a Webinar Wednesday, July 16, from 3 to 4 EST to clear up misconceptions about the proposed changes. <http://feedstuffs.com/story-epa-host-waters-webinar-45-115079>

**E&E Daily - President set to roll out help for climate-affected communities** - 7/15/15 - President Obama will personally roll out a series of new climate change adaptation actions tomorrow when he meets with members of his State, Local and Tribal Leaders Climate Task Force on Preparedness and Resilience. <http://www.eenews.net/eedaily/2014/07/15/stories/1060002843>

**E&E News PM - Top EPA air lawyer says power plant rule on firm legal ground** - 7/14/15 - U.S. EPA's proposal for existing power plant greenhouse gases rests on a firm legal foundation of years of field research and decades of agency rulemaking precedent, EPA's top lawyer for air quality issues told a room full of attorneys this afternoon. <http://www.eenews.net/eenewspm/2014/07/14/stories/1060002828>

**Politico (magazine) - How Climate Change Changed Me** - 7/15/14 - Farallon, as defined by both the returns generated for its investors and its professionalism, is a high performing investment organization, but its personnel were never focused on climate impacts. But the more I learned about the energy and climate problems we currently face, the more I realized I had to change my life. <http://www.politico.com/magazine/story/2014/07/how-climate-change-changed-me-108885.html>

**Huffington Post - U.S. Military May Be the Strongest Force in Battle Against Climate Change** - 7/15/14 - Republican aversion to scientific rationality is coming under attack from an unexpected direction: the U.S. defense establishment, hardly a hotbed of environmental radicalism, is sounding the alarm about the security threat of climate change. [http://www.huffingtonpost.com/ryan-rafaty/us-military-climate-change\\_b\\_5577959.html](http://www.huffingtonpost.com/ryan-rafaty/us-military-climate-change_b_5577959.html)

**EnergyWire - EPA's McCarthy pushes states to adopt carbon-cutting 'investment strategy'** - 7/15/14 - Gina McCarthy, the administrator of U.S. EPA, appeared at a meeting of state regulators to provide what she called a "signal." <http://www.eenews.net/energywire/stories/1060002860>

**BNA - Health Levels for Short-Term Risks of TCE In Indoor Air Recommended by EPA Region 9** - 7/14/14 - Interim health protection measures for short-term exposure to trichloroethylene (TCE) in indoor air should be established for California and other areas covered by the Environmental Protection Agency's Region 9. [http://news.bna.com/deln/DELNWB/split\\_display.adp?fedfid=49819421&vname=dennotallissues&jd=a0f3d3j0b1&split=0](http://news.bna.com/deln/DELNWB/split_display.adp?fedfid=49819421&vname=dennotallissues&jd=a0f3d3j0b1&split=0)

**BNB - Transfer of Storage Tank Cleanup Funds Likely to Be Part of 'Transportation Patch' - 7/14/14 -** Legislation to provide short-term stability to the Highway Trust Fund appears highly likely to include a transfer of \$1 billion from the Leaking Underground Storage Tank trust fund despite the objections of petroleum marketer groups.

[http://news.bna.com/deln/DELNWB/split\\_display.adp?fedfid=49819424&vname=dennotallissues&jd=a0f3d3p6g2&split=0](http://news.bna.com/deln/DELNWB/split_display.adp?fedfid=49819424&vname=dennotallissues&jd=a0f3d3p6g2&split=0)

**BNB - EPA Employee Union Slams McCarthy For Alleged Managerial Problems at Agency - 7/14/14 -** The head of the largest union representing Environmental Protection Agency employees slammed Administrator Gina McCarthy for not doing enough to discipline problem managers at the agency and for welcoming changes to civil service regulations that would make it easier to fire employees.

[http://news.bna.com/deln/DELNWB/split\\_display.adp?fedfid=49819432&vname=dennotallissues&jd=a0f3d3w2w7&split=0](http://news.bna.com/deln/DELNWB/split_display.adp?fedfid=49819432&vname=dennotallissues&jd=a0f3d3w2w7&split=0)

**BNB - EPA Followed States' Lead in Developing Power Plant Proposal, Officials Say - 7/14/14 -** The Environmental Protection Agency built off of successful state initiatives when it proposed carbon dioxide emissions standards for existing fossil fuel-fired power plants, agency officials and environmental advocates said.

[http://news.bna.com/deln/DELNWB/split\\_display.adp?fedfid=49819436&vname=dennotallissues&jd=a0f3d3z8w0&split=0](http://news.bna.com/deln/DELNWB/split_display.adp?fedfid=49819436&vname=dennotallissues&jd=a0f3d3z8w0&split=0)

**BNB - Court Asked to Lift Stay of Cross-State Rule, Set 2015 Deadline for Compliance by States - 7/14/14 -** The U.S. Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia Circuit should immediately lift its stay of the Environmental Protection Agency's cross-state emissions rule for power plants and order that the rule be quickly implemented over the next year.

[http://news.bna.com/deln/DELNWB/split\\_display.adp?fedfid=49819431&vname=dennotallissues&jd=a0f3d3u9g3&split=0](http://news.bna.com/deln/DELNWB/split_display.adp?fedfid=49819431&vname=dennotallissues&jd=a0f3d3u9g3&split=0)

**BNB - EPA Offers Grants for Community Air Monitoring Air Pollution - 7/14/14 -** The Environmental Protection Agency has announced the availability of grants as part of the agency's effort to advance community use of low-cost portable sensors for monitoring air pollution.

[http://news.bna.com/deln/DELNWB/split\\_display.adp?fedfid=49819445&vname=dennotallissues&jd=a0f3d9g2f0&split=0](http://news.bna.com/deln/DELNWB/split_display.adp?fedfid=49819445&vname=dennotallissues&jd=a0f3d9g2f0&split=0)

**Inside EPA - Refiners Fight Bid To Limit Future Suits Over RFS - 7/14/14 -** Refiners are urging a federal appeals court to reject the biodiesel sector's attempt to limit future litigation over EPA's renewable fuel standard (RFS) by revising a decision on a lawsuit over the 2013 RFS. <http://insideepa.com/201407142476821/EPA-Blog/News-Briefs/refiners-fight-bid-to-limit-future-suits-over-rfs/menu-id-97.html>

**Inside EPA - McCarthy Seeks Early State Input To Address Possible Revisions To ESPS - 7/14/14 -** Speaking to state utility regulators here, EPA Administrator Gina McCarthy pledged to consider changes and new data regarding the agency's proposed landmark greenhouse gas (GHG) standards for the existing power fleet.

<http://cleanenergyreport.com/201407142476855/Clean-Energy-Report-Daily-News/News/mccarthy-seeks-early-state-input-to-address-possible-revisions-to-esps/menu-id-202.html>

**Inside EPA - White House Weighs Higher EPA 2014 RFS Targets To Help Climate Efforts - 7/15/14** - The White House is examining options for reversing EPA's proposed cuts to several renewable fuel standard (RFS) production targets in order to promote biofuels that create fewer greenhouse gases (GHGs) than conventional fuels, informed sources say, as part of the Obama administration's broader efforts to combat climate change.  
<http://insideepa.com/201407152476878/EPA-Daily-News/Daily-News/white-house-weighs-higher-epa-2014-rfs-targets-to-help-climate-efforts/menu-id-95.html?s=mu>

### **Press Releases:**

Link to all R7 press releases: <http://go.usa.gov/Qx5>

None

### **Fact Sheets:**

Link to all R7 fact sheets: <http://www.epa.gov/region7/factsheets>

None

### **Upcoming Administrator/RA Events:**

\* New additions noted with an asterisk

**7/18/14** – Radio Interview with Kyle Hill, Regional Radio, Regional Office. Contact: Kris Lancaster, 7557

**7/21/14** – Civil Rights Event, Washington, D.C. Contact: Julia Cacho, 7071

**7/22/14** – Budget Forum, Washington, D.C. Contact: Julia Cacho, 7071

**7/23/14** – Senior Leadership Retreat for Regional Administrators, Washington, D.C. Contact: Julia Cacho, 7071

**7/24/14** – National Tribal Operations Committee Meeting, Washington DC. Contact: Lynn Slugantz, 7883

**7/28/14** – Tribal Visit, Kickapoo Tribe, Horton, Kan. Contact: Lynn Slugantz, 7883

**7/29/14** – Tribal Visit, Winnebago Tribe, Winnebago, Neb., Contact: Lynn Slugantz, 7883

**7/29-30/14** – Regional Tribal Operations Committee Meeting, Niobrara, Neb. Contact: Lynn Slugantz, 7883

**7/31/14** – Missouri Environmental & Energy Conference at the Lake, Osage Beach, Mo. Contact: David Cozad, 7587

**8/6/14** - St. Louis Regional Chamber of Commerce Meeting, St. Louis, Mo. Contact: David Bryan, 7433

**8/11/14** – Clean Power Plan Forum with Utility Executives, Kansas City, Mo. Contact: Mary Peterson, 7882

**8/20/14** – Tribal Consultation Training, Regional Office. Contact: Heather Hamilton, 7039

**DRA:**

**7/21/14** – Civil Rights Event, Washington, DC. Contact: Julia Cacho, 7071

**7/21-22/14** – Budget Forum, Washington, D.C. Contact: Julia Cacho, 7071

**7/21/14** – Civil Rights Event, Washington, D.C. Contact: Julia Cacho, 7071

**7/23-7/24/14** Executive Management Council Meeting, Washington, DC Contact: Dana Peters, 7444

**8/20/14** – Tribal Consultation Training, Regional Office. Contact: Heather Hamilton, 7039

**RA/Immediate Office**

None

**Other Events**

**AWMD**

**7/22/2014** – Participating in the Iowa Department of Natural Resources 111(d) kick off meeting, Des Moines, Iowa. Contact: Becky Weber, 7487.

**CNSL**

None

**ECO/EJ**

None

**ENSV**

None

**PLMG**

None

**RA/OPA**

**\*7/21/14** – Attend West Lake Landfill Community Advisory Group meeting in Bridgeton, Mo. Contact: Ben



Washburn, 7364

**9/29-30/14** - Healthy Schools Outreach, Missouri School Plant Managers' Association Conference, Four Seasons, Lake of the Ozarks, Mo. Contact: Kathleen Fenton, 7874 and Harry Diesel, 7382

**SUPR**

None

**WWPD**

**8/18-21/14** – Purdue Pesticide Program Certification and Training Workshop, Indianapolis, Ind. Contact: Douglas Jones, 7592